

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/09066

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> B41J29/38, G03F3/12, H04N5/76

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> B41J29/38, 29/46, 5/30, G06F3/12, H04N5/76Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2003  
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2003 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2003

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| X         | JP 2002-59627 A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.),<br>26 February, 2002 (26.02.02),<br>Full text; all drawings<br>& JP 2002-21320 A & US 2002/021320 A1 | 1-4                   |
| Y         | JP 2001-162902 A (Canon Inc.),<br>19 June, 2001 (19.06.01),<br>Full text; all drawings (Family: none)   | 5-13<br>1-13          |
| Y         | JP 2001-160939 A (Canon Inc.),<br>12 June, 2001 (12.06.01),<br>Full text; all drawings (Family: none)   | 1-13                  |
| Y         | JP 10-250190 A (Minolta Co., Ltd.),<br>22 September, 1998 (22.09.98),<br>Full text; all drawings (Family: none)                                   | 9                     |

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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| * Special categories of cited documents:<br>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance<br>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date<br>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)<br>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means<br>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention<br>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone<br>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art<br>"&" document member of the same patent family |
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| Date of the actual completion of the international search<br>08 August, 2003 (08.08.03) | Date of mailing of the international search report<br>19 August, 2003 (19.08.03) |
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| Name and mailing address of the ISA/<br>Japanese Patent Office | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No.  | Telephone No.      |